The New-York Times.

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to-day nominated by the Democratic caucus for Senate Printer. Senator DOUGLAS was absent.

A bill will, to-morrow, according to present understanding, be introduced in the Senate, authorizing the issue of Treasury notes. The amount is not yet fixed, but will be sufficiently large to meet the present exigencies of the Treasury. It is supposed that it will pass before the adjournment.

Thirty Protestant clergymen of Washington have tendered their services to conduct the religious exercises at the Capitol.

It is confidently asserted that Hon. R. J. WALKER to-day resigned the Governorship of Kansas.

Nearly a hundred applications have been made by reporters for the Press to the Speaker of the House for accommodations.

The Cabinet is in extraordinary session to-night.

XXXVth CONGRESS.....First Session.

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

A resolution was adopted that the Senate will, to-morrow, proceed to the election of a printer.

On motion of Mr. GWIN, a resolution was adopted calling on the President for all correspondence between the Departments and the present Governor of Kansas, together with all orders and instructions which have been issued to said officer.

Mr. ADAMS submitted a resolution that the Standing Committees be arranged as follows:

On Foreign Relations.—Messrs. Mason, Douglas, Slidell, Pugh, Crittenden, Seward, Foot.

On Finance.—Messrs. Hunter, Bayard, Pearce, Gwin, Bright, Biggs, Fessenden, Cameron.

On Commerce.—Messrs. Clay, Benjamin, Bigler, Toombs, Reid, Allen, Hamlin.

On Military Affairs.—Messrs. Davis, Fitzpatrick, Johnson of Arkansas, Iverson, Broderick, Wilson, King.

On Naval Affairs.—Messrs. Mallory, Thomson of New-Jersey, Slidell, Allen, Evans, Bell of Tennessee, Hale.

On Judiciary.—Messrs. Bayard, Toombs, Pugh, Benjamin, Green, Collamer, Trumbull.

On Post-Offices and Post Roads.—Messrs. Yulee, Bigler, Gwin, Fitch, Thomson of New-Jersey, Hale.

On Public Lands.—Messrs. Stuart, Johnson, of Arkansas; Pugh, Johnson, of Tennessee; Broderick, Foster and Harlan.

On Private Land Claims.—Messrs. Benjamin, Briggs, Thompson, of Kentucky; Kennedy and Durkee.

On Indian Affairs.—Messrs. Sebastian, Brown, Reid, Fitch, Bell, of Tenn.; Houston and Doolittle.

On Pensions.—Messrs. Jones, Thomson of New-Jersey, Clay, Bates, Thompson of Kentucky, King and Foster.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Evans, Bates, Crittenden, Wilson and Durkee.

On Claims.—Messrs. Iverson, Mallory, Polk, Clark and Simmons.

On the District of Columbia.—Messrs. Brown, Mason, Johnson of Tennessee, Bigler, Kennedy, Hamlin and Chandler.

On Patents and Patent Office.—Messrs. Reid, Evans, Yulee, Simmons, Trumbull.

On Public Buildings and Grounds.—Messrs. Bright, Davis, Douglas, Bayard, Clark.

On Territories.—Messrs. Douglas, Jones, Sebastian, Fitzpatrick, Green, Collamer, Wade.

To Audit and Control Contingent Expenses.—Messrs. Evans, Wright, Dixon.

On Printing.—Messrs. Johnson, of Arkansas; Fitzpatrick, Fessenden,

On Engrossed Bills.—Messrs. Wright, Bigler, Harlan.

On Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Jones, Brown, Doolittle.

On the Library.—Messrs. Pearce, Bayard, Hunter.

Mr. HAMLIN regarded the list as unjust, disproportionate and sectional. He thought it high time when the slave power has seized on the judiciary, and when the Supreme Court undertook to decide questions not legitimately before it, that great care should be taken as to the manner in which the Committees of the Senate were constituted, so as to shape the legislation of the country properly.

Mr. DOOLITTLE objected to the arrangements of the Committees, referring especially to the wants of the great Northwest, and the importance of the navigation and commerce of that section of the country.

Mr. CHANDLER read an extract from the *Daily Globe* announcing that a caucus of all parties had agreed to a certain list of committees. He was informed that a Democratic caucus was held and a list of committees made out, leaving certain blanks to be filled in by the Republicans, who saw fit to fill these blanks, under protest. No such general caucus as was announced was held, and no assent was ever given by the Republicans of the Senate to such a formation of Committees as was therein announced.

Mr. PUGH should vote for the list because it had been agreed upon by a regular Democratic caucus, but he concurred with those Senators who had expressed the opinion that the Committees were not fairly formed. He had said so at the proper place and time, and felt bound to repeat it, while placing his vote on record in favor of the list.

Mr. STUART said that he had declined serving on the Committee on Commerce. As that Committee had been alluded to, he thought proper to make this statement.

Mr. BAYARD vindicated the propriety of the formation of the list. It was proper that the dominant party should always retain in their own hands the ascendancy on all the important Committees.

Mr. GWIN alluded to the manner in which the Republicans had arranged the Committees in the House of Representatives when they had the power, as being in an eminent degree sectional and unjust. They could not now with a good grace find fault, for they had always exercised their power with an iron hand whenever they had the opportunity.

Mr. WILSON denied that at the last Congress the Republicans were unjust to the Democrats in the formation of the House Committees.

Mr. GWIN said that he did not refer particularly to the last Congress but to the general practice of that party for many years past.

Mr. WILSON contended that the Democratic Party and the Pro-Slavery Party in this country are one and the same thing, and indulged in some bright visions of the time when the Republicans shall gain the ascendency.

The list was then agreed to by a vote of 30 against 19.

Mr. GREEN proceeded to speak on Kansas affairs. Mr. DOUGLAS' speech, he said, took him by surprise, not only as to its matter, but as to its manner, and it was well calculated to prejudice the question pending before the people of Kansas. He wished to counteract, so far as might be in his power, the impression which had been made by that speech. The real issue now was, Ought Kansas, when her Constitution shall be presented, to be admitted into the Union, or ought the consideration of what the Senator from Illinois calls the "fundamental error of the President," to be regarded as sufficient cause for keeping Kansas out of the Union and keeping up the agitation of this most unfortunate question. The question was not whether we approve or do not approve of all the individual parts of the Lecompton Constitution, as to the provision in reference to the banks, taxations, etc. These are matters with which we have nothing to do, but which are to be left to the people themselves to regulate. The only question for Congress to consider is, does the Constitution embody a republican form of government? Has anybody disputed that proposition and contended to the contrary? Certainly the Senator from Illinois has not done so. There seemed to be a want of clear understanding as to the relation which the Federal Government sustains towards a Territory. The inhabitants of Kansas are a people, and what enabling act is required to impart to them power to propose a change in their form of government? Is an enabling act to give them more political rights or more inalienable rights? That would be a solecism and a contradiction. From these considerations it must be argued that Congress would have no right to refuse to admit Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution. The people of Kansas never proposed to form a State Government without the consent of Congress. The Convention was held in subordination to the Territorial Government. If admitted into the Union a State Government will take the place of the Territorial Government, and not without. If any attempt were made to subvert the present Government and set up another in opposition to the Federal authority, we could subjugate it, but they do not propose to interfere with the Territorial Government until the assent of Congress is received. There were eight States in the Union which formed Constitutions without enabling acts for admission, two of which the Senator from Illinois, himself, voted for. Florida and California had no enabling act. If Mr. DOUGLAS could vote for these, there could be no reason why he could not vote for the admission of Kansas. The assent of Congress may be given any time. The organic act declares that the people of Kansas shall be perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way. That way was to leave it to the action of the Convention, which was under no obligation to submit the Constitution, or any part of it to the popular vote. They chose to submit the slavery question, which was the great bone of contention, as a matter of policy and prudence, and not from any legal compulsion whatever. It was his (GREEN'S) opinion that the submission of that question alone was better calculated to get at the real will and judgment of the people than if the whole Constitution had been submitted. It has been also said that the people of Kansas were deceived, and that positive pledges and promises to submit the Constitution had been made and violated. That was a matter about which there has been a great deal of controversy, but as there was no positive evidence of this he did not think it proper to dwell upon it. In conclusion, he urged the importance of deciding the question speedily, so as to put an end to the constant agitation which has so long embittered the feelings of the people in the different sections of the Union. He thought the Constitution met the approbation of a majority of the people of Kansas, and if any of its provisions were obnoxious to them, they would have the power of modifying or changing them at any time.

Mr. DOUGLAS replied that he was gratified at the tone and spirit in which the Senator from Missouri had discussed the question, but as that Senator seemed to have misapprehended his (DOUGLAS') position as laid down in his speech delivered the other day, he (DOUGLAS) would make a brief statement on one or two points, in order that the Senate and the country might see what his position really was. First, he did not regard it as a fatal objection that there was no enabling act in advance. Second, he did not take the position that it was a fatal objection that the Constitution was not submitted to the people before it was sent to Congress for acceptance. The position he did assume was, that the regular mode of proceeding is by an enabling act, and that if the Territorial Legislature proceeds to call a Convention, without the consent of Congress to do so, that is irregular, but not so irregular that it necessarily follows that all the proceedings are vitiated. The Convention or any other body of men may send a petition to Congress for a change in the form of their Government, and Congress is at liberty to accept or reject the petition as it pleases. The Lecompton Convention was not an unlawful body and might send a petition, but it was not a Convention authorized to establish or institute a Government for Kansas. Many of the new States had been admitted without an enabling act being first passed by Congress. The schedule said that the Constitution should be submitted to all the people of Kansas for approval or disapproval. No Constitution could be considered as a Republican which did not embody the will of the people who were to be governed by it and was not formed by their action. The next question was, what is the best mode of ascertaining that will? He argued with the President that the best mode was to refer it to the people for acceptance or rejection by a fair vote. He (DOUGLAS) could not admit that a Constitution forced upon the people against their will was a Republican Constitution. It was no use to say it was a good Constitution. Congress had no right to cram a good thing down their throats against their will. The question was whether the people shall be permitted to form their own Constitution? The Senator from Missouri urged the importance of terminating this controversy. Now he (DOUGLAS) would do anything that was right, and anything just, in order to terminate it. He would sacrifice everything but principle and honor and country, in order to close this unhappy agitation, but how are we to do it? It must be done upon principles of eternal justice and truth, or it will not stay closed. Congress must terminate it upon the principles of self-government, or they will not have a republican system of government. No system of patching-up and trickery will settle this question. Instead of having peace, it will only be the beginning of a new controversy. It would be necessary to increase the army and use the military power of the Government, if the majority were to be subjected to the oppression of the minority. He trusted that there would pe no outbreak, no violence—but he feared such a result if a majority of the people of Kansas were to be coerced into submission to the will of the minority. The Senator from Missouri had said that they could change the Constitution immediately after they became a State, but he (DOUGLAS) argued on the other hand that it could not be changed until 1864, and then only by a Convention to be called by two-thirds of the Legislature. It was a principle of law, when a constitution provides for its being changed at a particular time and in a particular mode, it excludes all other modes. Any Court in Christendom would thus construe it, and the only other mode of changing their constitution would be by revolution. This scheme, therefore, is a scheme of civil war, and leads directly to war. If he should vote to admit Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution, he should feel obliged, in consequence, to increase the army and enforce it at the point of the bayonet. He besought Senators to pause before they committed themselves to such a fatal error. This was not to be regarded as an Administration measure. Every man on the floor of the Senate had a liberty to vote for or against it without surrendering his party ties. The adoption of the measure would not only rend asunder the Democratic Party, but endanger the peace and perpetuity of the Union. The President was a frank man, and he did not believe that the President would ask his party to do that to which he was unwilling to commit himself on paper. He did not believe the President would ask Senators to run their necks into the halter of disunion or civil war, before he was ready to take the lead and point out the way. Then let us restore peace to the country by ignoring these irregular Conventions at Lecompton and Topeka, and authorizing the people to go forward and form a Constitution and State government for themselves. That, he (DOUGLAS) believed, would restore quiet in ninety days.

Mr. GREEN responded, denying that the people of Kansas would be compelled to retain their present Constitution unchanged until 1864, and argued that a Convention could be called at any time, to make such a change as a majority of the people might desire.

The further consideration of the subject was then postponed until Monday. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The House met in the new hall.

A communication was received from the clergymen of Washington, tendering their services to open the daily sessions with prayer.

Amid much confusion, the members proceeded to select their seats by lottery.

Mr. JONES, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for the payment of the invalid and other pensions.

Memorials were presented from Messrs. BROOKS and WHITE, of Baltimore, contesting the seats of Messrs. DAVIS and HARRIS, and were referred to the Committee on Elections.

The Printing Committee reported in favor of printing 20,000 extra copies of the President's Message and accompanying documents.

Mr. COX, of Ohio, said he heartily concurred with the views of the Message, in almost every sentence, except that part relative to Kansas. In his judgment, contrary to the opinion of the President, there will be no peace if Kansas be admitted under the Lecompton Constitution. Expediency is a dangerous doctrine, when brought in contact with principle. There can be no peace when the rights of the people are jeoparded. He did not agree with the old theologian, that in order to be saved we must be damned. His pledge to his constituents was to stand on the doctrine of submission of the entire Constitution to the people. This is of the highest concern, and is essential to self-government. It has its foundation in the Cincinnati platform, in the President's inaugural, in Governor WALKER'S acceptance, in the President's letter to the Connecticut Clergymen, in the instructions he sent to Governor WALKER, and in his annual message. All came here as record-evidence and show the pledges which have been given to the people of Kansas that they should have the whole Constitution submitted to them. He would ask the House why the traitorous Catilines of Kansas should therefore attempt to subjugate the people's will to their own. Having given these pledges it would be a breach of faith and a gross dereliction of duty to disregard them. The movement at Lecompton was an attempt to carry out the Slavery principle, and by pretended submission to force the Constitution on the unwilling people, for in any event it could not be rejected. This sort of juggle would not do. The right of self-government was higher and dearer than all Cabinets and Presidents. There was no power, according to JEFFERSON and BUCHANAN, for the Territorial Legislature to call into being a Convention to supersede the Territorial Government. Without the consent of the people the Constitution would be a putrescence and should never be dragged into Congress for grave deliberation. It would be a Congressional intervention in their domestic affairs. The people of the Northwest cared not what would be the result as to Kansas' domestic institutions. He would vote for her admission as a Slave State if the will of the people be made clearly to appear. He referred to what he characterized as a fraud in the appointment of representatives, and mentioned in this connection, as an example, the Oxford Precinct. The Constitution was not Republican in form; it prohibited alteration or amendment until 1864. If there is any change, it must be by civil war, for blood must ever track the steps of wrong. He earnestly protested against the Constitution, because it was against the principle of self-government. It must be submitted entire to the approval of the whole people. In conclusion, he gave notice of his intention to submit a proposition to take a popular vote upon the subject.

Mr. HUGHES rose to express his surprise and regret that the gentleman should have chosen this occasion to precipitate such a debate on the House. There are those who believe the Administration are in trouble, and that clouds are gathering round the Democratic Party. He, therefore, humbly conceived that the friends of the Administration and the members of the Democratic Party should not be the first to sound the alarm. There was no question before the House as to whether Kansas should be admitted as a Free or a Slave State, and hence the time and occasion for the speech were against the gentleman. It was unexpected, for he believed we had no Presidential candidates in this body. Allusion had been made to a distinguished Senator's position, but it might be well, perhaps, for that Senator to look to his laurels and honor. He understood Mr. COX to say, with emphasis, that at the last Presidential election the people of Ohio decided that the Constitution of Kansas, whatever it might be, should be submitted to a vote of the people. He apprehended that no such issue would be presented in Ohio, ner in Indiana. The gentleman from Ohio would recollect that the term "Popular sovereignty" was not understood till after the Presidential election, [laughter,] and until the decision in the Dred Scott case it was not understood in all sections alike, and not understood in the sense in which Mr. COX seemed to understand it. Perhaps the gentleman from Ohio does not intend to stand by the President. If he (HUGHES) found himself compelled to separate himself from the Democratic Party and Administration, he should go with them to the last moment. He should not be the first to leave the ship. Where would the gentleman go to carry out the doctrine of "popular sovereignty?"

Mr. COX replied that he would go to the platform of the Cincinnati Convention, the President's Inaugural and annual Message, and his instructions to Gov. WALKER. He would stand on the wreck, and would not be driven off by any little scornful indignation.

Mr. HUGHES replied that it was far from him to treat the gentleman with scorn. He looked on his argumen with sorrow and regret. But where would he go to get the Popular Sovereignty that the people should vote on the whole Constitution. Would he go with those who attempt to enforce the Topeka Constitution?—

Mr. COX (Interrupting)—I will not go there.

Mr. HUGHES—The gentleman says in effect he will form a party for himself. It is unfortunate that some people are not sufficiently important to build up a new party, or sufficiently humble to follow in the footsteps of one already organized. [Laughter.] He wanted gentlemen to show their hands on this question.

The resolution of the Printing Committee was adopted; also a resolution to print 16,000 copies of the financial report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. TAYLOR, of New-York, made an ineffectual effort to introduce a joint resolution for the payment of arrearages of salaries of members at the commencement of the session, instead of at the end.

A resolution was adopted instructing a Select Committee to inquire and report what additional number of messengers and pages are rendered necessary by the removal to the new hall, and what arrangements are necessary to accommodate reporters, and promote the comfort of members. Adjourned.

Washington Art Association.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The address before the Washington Art Association, last evening, by Hon. J. R. TYSON, was an eloquent and beautiful production, and was heard by the *élite* of the city, in Corcoran Hall, in which building the Exhibition of Art was thrown open to the public at the conclusion of the address.

Mr. TYSON commenced by alluding to the discouraging circumstances under which the Washington Art Association had entered upon their present enterprise. A fortitude deserving success, or indeed the ardor which commands it, was requisite. The minds of men are attuned to an appreciation of the beautiful in art in the seasons of repose which prosperity secures; but the blossoms of elegance are chilled by the frost of adversity. The effort to impress the purposes of this Association upon the attention of the country at this period of financial gloom, is worthy the heroic spirit of the masters of the pencil and the chisel, as well as of song, who have lived and died for the glory of their professions.

The speaker extolled the patriotic purpose of making a repository of Art for the genius of the country, in its national metropolis, amidst the memorials of our greatness, whither the home student and the foreign tourist repair for glimpses of the taste and intellect of the nation. Here all the peculiarities of our people are exhibited, here Art is diversified by the variety of climate, and the varying conditions of society, and here an impartial and cultivated judgment should express in candid criticism its chastening and improving verdict.

Mr. TYSON assumed that every citizen desired that the National Capital should reveal the evidences of a high civilization, and would feel a just pride in realizing that the grace and beauty surrounding him were the achievements of his own countrymen. In all ages the artist has been cherished by his own Government, or by its Sovereign, princes, and nobles. Without such aids the fine arts have ever languished. But we have no imperial or patrician rank, no law of primogeniture, no permanent class to whom the artist may look for patronage. The fostering aid of a legislature, and the appreciation of a schooled and reading public are his only resources, and he must turn to these in competition with the demands for the development of vast and unexplored physical resources.

Practical knowledge, the colossal machinery of Government, and the ordinary industrial pursuits, absorb so much of the devotion challenged for the beauties of Art, that we may even wonder at the efforts of taste we behold in decoration, architecture, landscape-gardening, statuary and painting, for it requires the cooperation of artificial conveniences and mental culture with wealth, luxury and leisure to excite the poetic sentiment essential to the general appreciation of artistic genius in its higher manifestations.

These truths were eloquently sustained by parallels derived from the history of ancient Greece and Rome, and the prosperity of Art in modern Rome. The deficiencies of practical England with respect to the fine arts were dwelt upon, and a beautiful tribute was rendered to the brief catalogue of artists who have adorned the annals of this land of high achievement and practical wisdom—whose genius has illumed science and literature, and from whom we have received better lessons and qualities than Italy could have afforded us.

In America the native taste has been quickened by cultivation, and private wealth has been liberal to Art. But the number of persons of elegant taste and leisure is small; few models of excellence exist; no standard of taste prevails, and the merits of a candidate are often decided by caprice, whim, partiality or illnature. This the artist sustains in his unaided struggles, and with a mind ill fortified by discipline to endure it. A mind dwelling upon beauty in its varied forms hence contracts a disgust for every-day existence, and acquires a taste for factitious elegance incompatible with the struggle for bread, and prosperity is rarely attained until the lengthened shadows of life announce its decline.

The speaker maintained that they err who suppose that the artist has but few subjects of study in this country. Of superior specimens of Art we have enough to restrain the license and rectify the errors of genius, without repressing its originality. The eventful history and the majestic scenery of our country should afford ample inspiration. With themes so novel and suggestive, painting and sculpture may here form a school free from subjection to foreign ideas. The independent spirit of BENJAMIN WEST, an American artist, led him to the practical adoption of a conception that inaugurated a new era of Art in England.

After the recital of numerous historic instances and some of them of a ludicrous character, illustrative of the unequal conflict of merit and rank in Europe, Mr. TYSON said that it is merit which here commands the avenues to distinction, rank and fame. Where nature does her part, diligence and labor will do the rest. He also descanted upon the practice of visiting Italy to acquire the arts, and with them the frivolities and vices of that artificial land—an experience which he did not regard as necessary for those whom nature had favored, quoting the couplet:

"How much a fool who has been sent to Rome
Exceeds a fool who has been kept at home."

But diligence as well as genious must combine with a benignant nature to produce a great artist. "No day without a line" was the maxim by which APELLES rose.

The imitation of nature, transferring not merely the lineaments but the expressive life and soul, is no mean achievement; but the pencil may combine objects in action and so dispose the parts as to evolve the complications of an intricate narrative; or it may create scenes beyond the effect of language. Thus the sculptor or painter is essentially a poet, and capable of uttering the most pungent satire, the most delicate irony, the severest libel, or the highest praise. It is also within his compass to depict the grandest conceptions of the human mind in corresponding proportions of beauty and majesty, and to reveal them in fearful aspects of terror and sublimity.

The speaker, after paying a merited tribute to COLE and ALLSTON, entered upon a vindication of BENJAMIN WEST, and pointed out the political influence which led to his disparagement in England. He dwelt with emphasis upon the merits of this painter, whose simple monument he had seen in Saint Paul's Cathedral in London, with its meagre inscription. WEST had sat for many years on the throne of British Art, but while the marble which covers his ashes has no soothing word of regret or commendation, the monuments of artists around him are loud in eulogy. But marvelous changes had taken place in the sentiment of England, between the period when WEST was received with honor, before our Revolution, and that of his death, after our Independence; yet, it is still more marvelous that American writers and American opinion were even under the slavish influence of the British press. The mists of prejudices, however, have passed away in both countries, and both countries rejoice in his honor.

A brief account of the character and excellence of some of the paintings of WEST was given, but the speaker dwelt chiefly upon his transcendent composition of "Death on the Pale Horse." The difficulties over which this great artist triumphed; his life of moral and religious purity; his manners as a polished gentleman; his cordiality of feeling and generosity, were eloquently presented for approval and emulation. The audience, and especially the artists among them, were pointedly informed that he was a stranger to professional jealousy; that he assisted the meritorious; that the state of Art in his own country lay near his heart, and that the formation of an Academy of Art in Philadelphia engaged his countenance and sympathy.

Mr. TYSON, in conclusion, earnestly commended the example of this distinguished man in all these characteristics to the study and imitation of American artists; and said that it was to be hoped that the influences of an institution like this might concentrate the scattered rays of the talents of his countrymen, and that whether called upon in the theoretical province of statuary, or the lofty fields of pictorial art, its judgments might be impartially pronounced, and its rewards faithfully distributed.

United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Nos. 4 and 9.—Arguments for plaintiffs in the first case concluded.

No. 10.—George Law, representing the Mail Steamship Company, *vs.* Charles Hill et al., owners of the ship *Ocean Queen*. The appeal was dismissed for want of jurisdiction, there being no final decree in the case.

No. 12.—The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ's Church, Philadelphia, in trust for the Hospital, *vs.* the County of Philadelphia.—Cause submitted on the record and printed argument.

No. 15.—James R. Jones et al. *vs.* Catherine McMasters, by her next friend, Manuel Ybarbo.—Argument for plaintiffs commenced.

The Newfoundland Telegraph Line.

SACKVILLE, N. B., Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The land line of the Newfoundland Telegraph has been interrupted since Monday, the 7th inst., and is still out of order, in consequence of a recent flood in one or two rivers, where the posts and wires were swept off, and as yet no means has been devised to stretch a new wire across the swollen streams. Arrangements, however, are in progress to prevent a recurrence of the present trouble.

Non-Arrival of the Canada.

HALIFAX, Wednesday, Dec. 16—11 P. M.

There are no signs of the steamship *Canada*, from Liverpool 5th inst. The weather is clear and calm.

The Weather at the East.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The weather is mild, and much snow is falling.

HALIFAX, N. S., Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The weather here is hazy and moderate.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The weather is mild, and snow is falling.

MONTREAL, Canada, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

It is snowing hard here this morning.

PORTLAND, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Snow is falling fast here this morning.

EXETER AND KENNE, N. H., Wednesday, Dec. 16.

It is snowing here to-day.

Departure of the America.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The Cunard steamship *America* sailed, at noon, with 58 passengers for Liverpool and 21 for Halifax, and about $1,024,400 in specie.

Board of Education.

The Board of Education held their regular meeting last night, the President, ANDREW H. GREEN, Esq., in the Chair.

On motion of Mr. WATERBURY, the Commissioners appointed last Winter, by the Governor of the State, to examine the school system of this City, being present, were invited to seats in the Chamber.

Commissioner HOOPER objected to a passage in the minutes, referring to the establishment of heads of departments in the Free Academy, consequent on the failure on the part of the Board to adopt an amendment of Mr. BENEDICT'S, to reject the proposed alteration in the organization of the government of that institution. Mr. HOOPER contended that Mr. BENEDICT'S amendment had been carried, and severely censured the Clerk for the alleged mistake. He moved that the matter be referred to a Special Committee, by whom the vote should be collected.

After further discussion, the President ruled the motion to be out of order, and the minutes were adopted as they stood. The annual reports of the Inspectors from the Sixth and Sixteenth Wards were presented. The former is represented as being in a deplorable condition, and the latter entirely inadequate in point of room, for the accommodation of the pupils in attendance.

The elaborate report of Mr. RANDALL, City Superintendent, on the schools of the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Wards, represented those institutions as being in a prosperous condition, both as to the number of pupils in attendance and their educational progress. This was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Finance Commissioners, to whom was referred the estimate of the Board for expenditures for 1858, according to the requirements of the 25th section of the Charter of 1857, reported that after due examination, they found the following facts to exist:

The number of scholars taught in the public schools of the City for the year preceding, as prescribed by the School Act, was 125,722.

This number of scholars at $4 each, authorizing a levy for school-purposes, as provided by the 16th section of the School Act of 1851, gave the sum of $542,888.

The 15th section of the same act provided that the Board of Supervisors should annually raise by tax a sum of money equal to the amount apportioned to the County of New-York for the support of the Common Schools therein.

This amount is as follows:

From the U.S. Dep. and Com. School Fund	$60,544 49
Three-fourths mill tax Fund	139,245 06
Total	$213,689 55

The same section, also, provides that there shall be raised a sum equal to one-twentieth of one per cent. of the value of the real and personal property in the said City.

The valuation for the year 1857 is	$320,545,923 20
One-twentieth of one per cent. on this sum is	160,272 94

The whole amount thus authorized to be raised by the Supervisors, for the support of the common schools in this City, is, then, as follows:

By the 15th section, from apportionment	$213,689 55
By the 16th section, from 1-20th of 1 per ct.	160,272 94
By the 16th section, from $4 per scholar	542,888 00
Total	$1,016,850 19
The estimate of the Board of Education calls for	1,126,013 60
Making an excess of	$109,063 41

In addition, they also call for $125,000, for a deficiency of the school money of the year 1854.

The Board of Finance object to the general estimate for the year 1858, and return the estimate to the Board of Education to be corrected in the matter of the excess of $109,063 41 over the sum authorized by law.

They also object to the item of $125,000 for arrearages of 1854, on the ground that there cannot be

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TAMMANY HALL. Considerable excitement prevails in this building, in consequence of the Democratic Committees, and Messrs. Cox and Hughes in the House.

The Finance Committee—The New-York Post-Office—The Harvester—The Nicaraguan Expedition, &c.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Senator GREEN'S reply to DOUGLAS, to-day, was somewhat tame, though, under the circumstances, creditable. DOUGLAS' reply was overwhelming.

The speech of Mr. COX, the new Democratic member of the House from Ohio, against the Lecompton Constitution, was a powerful effort, and attracted universal and respectful interest.

The President has made quite a strong personal appeal in behalf of HAMLIN for Senate Printer, that BIGLER has withdrawn, the Administration agreeing to give him half the printing from the Executive Department. HAMLIN will be elected to-morrow.

The time of electing the Standing Committees of the Senate by resolution was gone through with to-day. You are already aware, I suppose, how the affair is arranged. The Democratic majority had a caucus, at which they decided how many of the Committees, and which ones, they should take entirely to themselves, and how many and who of their own men they should place on the remainder. This done, they handed their list over to the Republicans, to fill the blanks, and the list thus arranged is formally passed for in open Senate.

The liberality of the majority, in the present instance, is remarkable. They have thirty-seven members of the body, to twenty-five in the opposition; and, in the formation of the Committees, left in some cases one and others two blanks, only, to be filled by the minority. The Republicans of the body represent four-fifths of the commerce of the country, but have but only one member of the Committee on Commerce. In the Committee on Naval Affairs, Mr. MALLORY is the only Republican. On the Library Committee there is no Republican. It was feared, probably, that if even one such were to get on the Committee he would smuggle into the library some such incendiary volume as *Jefferson's Notes*, or other behindhand document.

"Hope deferred" may be a jewel; but the Senate majority don't seem to want any jewels. I don't know that it makes much difference in the end;—but the studied manner in which a powerful minority is treated in the present instance is a fit subject of remark—although if the Democratic Senators think it unworthy of remonstrance, nobody else need care much about it.

Speaker ORR has made some significant changes in the Standing Committees—and none more so than that of putting Wm. H. KELLEY of New-York from the Committee on Engraving. When a man has been Chairman of a Committee in a previous Congress, and is found in the minority party in a subsequent Congress, it is customary to compliment him with a subordinate position on the same Committee. There is no significance, therefore, in the transfer of Mr. KELLEY from the Chairmanship of the Engraving Committee to a subordinate position in the Committee on Agriculture. What does it mean? Mr. ORR owes the public and New-York an explanation.

The correspondence of threats uttered by the would-be speculators in a New-York Post-Office site, to the effect that they would sue out an injunction to restrain the authorities of New-York City from selling a site to the Government, the Postmaster General is compelled to procure the passage of a special act of the State Legislature authorizing the sale for a price named. By the time that is accomplished the chances are that the President, in consequence of the low state of the Treasury, will not permit the necessary funds to be drawn out to complete the purchase.

I learn from a private letter, received in this city, that the cattle which were taken on the 13th October by the Indians, comprised those belonging to the emigrant trains which were burned previously, and numbered two hundred and seventy to each train, making an aggregate of 810 head. Besides these there were 120 head of beef cattle which had been pasturing on Green River for the troops. These cattle were only three miles behind the military command when they were run off. There were only seven men in charge of them.

On the 10th of October Colonel ALEXANDER was waiting, then by another express from BINGHAM HOOPER, with a message ordering him a second time to leave the country.

General HARNEY was at Culpepper Court-House, Virginia, on Friday and Saturday of last week, and spent a pleasant time with Hon. JOHN S. PENDLETON and other Old-Line Whigs of the neighborhood.

General HARNEY is still in Washington, but has little to say in regard to WALKER'S movements. We know, however, here that a thousand stand of arms, two field batteries and a large quantity of ammunition left the port a day or two ago in two lighters—which have been carried to a vessel outside of Sandy Hook, destined for the service of General WALKER. Is the little steamer *Fashion* cruising so near you for Queen Ash?

WALKER'S friends here are of opinion that, having found it inexpedient to land at Greytown, he will not attempt to force his way up the river at present, but will post himself somewhere upon its right bank and await reinforcements or the breaking out of such a revolution in Nicaragua as shall open the country freely to him again. He has with him ample supplies for six months, and it is believed can maintain his position against any force which can be brought against him.

It is asserted with great positiveness, that any attempt to interfere with the landing of his reinforcements will be resisted at every hazard,—WALKER'S determination being to force upon the foreign cruisers who may be disposed thus to interfere within the waters of Nicaragua, the responsibility of sinking every man rather than yield. As the landing at San Juan has been effected, and concentrated all the fleets cruising upon that coast, WALKER'S reinforcements will be sent to seek some other point of landing. I am informed that this contingency was foreseen by WALKER, and that he has made wise provision to meet it.

We have news here that MARTINEZ, DILLAYE and three or four others have called a Mass meeting at Tammany Hall for the 17th inst., to consider and report upon the policy of the National Administration as expressed in the President's Message. As the Democratic Committee the other night, adjourned *sine die* after rescinding the resolutions expelling Messrs. SANDERS and GUTHRIE, there is a little curiosity here to know whether the authority for the proposed meeting in Tammany emanated.

It is understood that at the meeting FERNANDO WOOD will preside, and resolutions are to be passed in favor of the removal of Governor WALKER, BUTLER-WORTH, FORTAS, and every other federal office-holder who exhibited approval of WOOD'S "mode of transacting business" as exemplified in the Marines affair. Any such action as this will seriously embarrass the President; and Mr. DALLAS, if he is not careful, will probably learn in due time that Mr. BUCHANAN understands how to get rid of impudent and officious friends.

WM. B. RANKIN, President of the Pennsylvania Keystone Club, well-known in his State as the "Hero of the Williamsport Convention," having got up a meeting of his Club, and passed resolutions reading DOUGLAS, WISE, and a host of other Democrats out of the party, has come on post haste with the resolutions in one hand and his application for office in the other. Such patriotism is uncommonly common now-a-days.

It is said, editor of the *Pennsylvanian*, who has received the great contract for printing Post-office

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[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Colonel HARNEY, of the *Union* newspaper, was

The Cattle Show.

The Cattle Show of the American Institute at the Crystal Palace, which opened Tuesday morning, is not a very large one, but some fine specimens are on exhibition there, and constant additions are made. To-day the Llamas or Alpaca Sheep, whose arrival at this port we announced yesterday, will be exhibited at the Palace. They are forty-two in number, and are the property of EUGENE KOMEL, a French Naturalist. They do not by any means come under the denomination "fat cattle;" their recent sea-voyage has reduced them to mere skeletons, and unless measures are speedily taken to recruit them it is feared that many of them will die. They will be ready for exhibition this morning at 9 o'clock. Since their arrival on Tuesday, they have been at Bull's Head, Twenty-fourth-street.

We give below a list of the cattle and poultry; they are divided into separate lots as follows:

No. 1. One pair of 4-year-old Durham Steers, exhibited by CHAS. G. TREE, Somers, Westchester Co., N. Y. Weight at home, 4,750 pounds; present weight, 4,300 pounds.

No. 2. Not filled.

No. 3. One pair of stall-fed cattle exhibited by THOS. WHEELER, Dutchess County.

No. 4. A Devon Bull, exhibited by BENJAMIN WHITLOCK, West Farms, N. Y. Aldine animal, not very fat, but pure blood.

No. 5. Dutch and Durham Cows, exhibited by BENJAMIN WHITLOCK, West Farms, N. Y.

No. 6. A fat calf. Same exhibitor.

No. 7. Ten fat lambs, half Southdowns, exhibited by A. E. HOPKINS, Carmel, Putnam Co., N. Y.

No. 8. Pair of stall-fed cattle exhibited by LEVI VAN VLEET, Clinton, Dutchess Co. Weight 4,000 lbs.

No. 9. A fat heifer exhibited by CHARLES HAMMOND, Morrisania.

No. 10. Assortment of pigeons, M. HOWLAND, New-York.

No. 11. Three pair of pigeons, L. ASPINWALL, New-York.

No. 12. Twelve pair of Pigeons, E. N. HASTINGS, New-York.

No. 13. One pair of Durham Steers, 4-year-old, in VAN ALSTYN, Ghent, Columbia County, N. Y. Gross weight, 4,665 lbs.; present weight, 4,400 lbs.

No. 14. Two Durham Heifers, BENJAMIN WHITLOCK, West Farms, Westchester County.

No. 15. Five Suffolk Pigs, 5 months old, WM. LOVE, New-York.

No. 16. One Hampshire Hog, 3 years old, WM. LOVE, New-York. Weight, 750 lbs.

No. 17. Three fat Ewes, (Cotswold,) DAVID SANDS, Dutchess County.

No. 18. A Maltese Jack, C. A. KINNAN, New-York.

No. 19. A pair of fat Oxen, HARRISON HARRIS, New-Castle, Westchester County.

No. 20. 72 Nankin Sheep and Lambs, R. L. PELL, Æsopus, Ulster County.

No. 21. Two fat Wethers, THOS. SWARD, New-York.

No. 22. A Maltese goat, S. B. CAR

Wholesale Produce Markets.

Reported exclusively for the New-York Times.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 16, 1857.

The prices given in our report from week to week are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those by which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices noted are the transactions of the day previous—at least in an excess of 500 over the preceding. The quotations are for the best qualities of the articles.

The Potato trade is quite active during the mild weather, and a limited stock is being laid in by those who omitted it in the early part of the season. Good to very choice Extra Missouri ..... $3 20@3 60
Extra Genesee ..... 4 00@4 25
Fancy Genesee ..... 4 00@4 00
Extra Ohio ..... 3 90@4 00
Fancy Ohio ..... 3 90@3 95
Extra Indiana and Michigan ..... 3 90@3 90
Superfine Indiana and Michigan ..... 3 85@3 90
Superfine Ohio ..... 3 80@3 80
Extra State ..... 4 05@4 15
Common to good Superfine ..... 3 90@4 00
Extra Brands ..... $4 20@4 30
Common to good Superfine ..... 4 00@4 15
Superfine Indiana and Michigan ..... 4 35@4 50
Superfine Ohio ..... 4 30@4 40
Extra Indiana and Michigan ..... 4 60@4 70
Fancy Ohio ..... 4 60@4 70
Extra Ohio ..... 4 60@4 70
Extra Genesee ..... 4 60@4 70
Extra Missouri ..... 4 60@4 70
Extra Indiana and Michigan ..... 4 60@4 70
Extra Ohio ..... 4 60@4 70
Extra Genesee ..... 4 60@4 70
Extra Missouri ..... 4 60@4 70
Low to very Choice Extra Missouri ..... $ 30@7 00
Choice Genesee ..... 5 50@6 00
Low to Very Choice Extra Genesee ..... 5 00@7 00
Choice Extra Genesee ..... 6 00@6 25
Low to Very Choice Extra Genesee ..... 5 50@6

FOR SOUTHAMPTON AND HAVRE.—THE United States Mail Steamer ARAGO D. LEES, Commander, will leave for Havre, touching at Southampton, with the mail and passengers, on SATURDAY, Jan. 1, at 12 o'clock, from Pier No. 54, North River.

FOR SOUTHAMPTON AND HAVRE.—THE United States Mail Steamer ARAGO D. LEES, Commander, will leave for Havre, touching at Southampton, with the mail and passengers, on SATURDAY, Jan. 1, at 12 o'clock, from Pier No. 54, North River.

FOR LIVERPOOL.—THE UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMER ATLANTIC, Capt. OLIVER ROBERTS, will depart with the United States mail for Europe positively on SATURDAY, Jan. 2, at 12 o'clock M., from her berth at the foot of Canal-st.

For freight or passage, having unequaled accommodations for elegance and comfort, apply to EDWARD K. COLLINS, No. 56 Wall-st.

Passengers are requested to be on board at 11 o'clock A. M., as the gates will be closed at that hour; any others will not be returned.

NOTICE.—The steamers of this line have improved water-tight compartments, and no expense has been spared to make them all as good as new; the thorough examination given them proves their mode of construction yet unequaled.

GREAT REDUCTION ON FARE TO EUROPE.

First Cabin.....$80 | Second Cabin.....$60

In the first-class paddle-wheel steamship ARIEL, 2,000 tons, Capt. W. BARTLETT, Commander, sailing NORTH RIVER, at noon, punctually, carrying the United States Mails, viz:

Leave New-York for Southampton, Havre and Bremen.	Prepaid Passage from Southampton and New-York.	Leave Havre and Southampton for New-York.
Saturday, Feb. 14	$80	Wednesday, March 4
Saturday, March 14	$80	Wednesday, April 1
Saturday, April 11	$80	Wednesday, April 29
Saturday, May 9	$80	Wednesday, May 27
Saturday, May 23	$80	Wednesday, June 10
Saturday, June 6	$80	Wednesday, June 24
Saturday, June 20	$80	Wednesday, July 8

For freight or passage, apply to EDWARD K. COLLINS, No. 56 Wall-st., New-York.

BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO., Liverpool.
STEPHEN REMNARD & CO., No. 87 Austin Friars, London.
G. G. WAINWRIGHT & CO., Paris.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for gold, silver, coin, specie, jewelry, precious stones, or metals, unless bills of lading are signed therefor and the value thereof expressed therein.

FOR SOUTHAMPTON AND HAVRE.—THE United States Mail Steamer ARAGO D. LEES, Commander, will leave for Havre, touching at Southampton, with the mail and passengers, on SATURDAY, Jan. 1, at 12 o'clock, from Pier No. 54, North River.

The ATLANTIC, Capt. OLIVER ROBERTS.
The BALTIC, Capt. JAMES COMSTOCK.

This ship has five water-tight compartments, inclosing the engines, so that, in the event of collision or stranding, the water could not reach them, and the pumps being free to work, the safety of the vessel and passengers would be secured.

Passengers are requested during the voyage, to be sent on board of the ship before eight o'clock A. M. below.

Baggage can be passed on ship's side.

WM. L. BEATTY, Agent, No. 1 Broadway.

N. B.—The steamer FULTON will succeed the ARAGO, and sail June 26, &c.

FOR LIVERPOOL.—THE UNITED STATES AND ATLANTIC MAIL STEAMERS.—The above-named first-class steamships of the New-York and Liverpool United States Mail Steamship Line, viz:

The ATLANTIC, Capt. OLIVER ROBERTS.
The BALTIC, Capt. JAMES COMSTOCK.

Will sail from their regular dock, foot of Canal-st., North River, as follows, viz:

The ATLANTIC, on SATURDAY, Dec. 19, at 12 M.
The BALTIC, on SATURDAY, Dec. 26, at 12 M.

These ships have been fitted up with every regard to the comfort and convenience of passengers, and no exertion has been spared to make them all as good as new; the thorough examination given them proves their mode of construction yet unequaled.

PROPOSED DATES OF SAILING.

From New-York.	From Liverpool.
Saturday, Jan. 16	Wednesday, Feb. 3
Saturday, Feb. 13	Wednesday, March 3
Saturday, March 13	Wednesday, March 31
Saturday, April 10	Wednesday, April 28
Saturday, May 1	Wednesday, May 12
Saturday, May 23	Wednesday, June 9
Saturday, June 6	Wednesday, June 23
Saturday, June 20	Wednesday, July 7

For freight or passage, apply to EDWARD K. COLLINS, No. 56 Wall-st., New-York.
BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO., Liverpool.
STEPHEN REMNARD & CO., No. 87 Austin Friars, London.
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STEAM BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND GLASGOW.—EDINBURGH, 2,500 tons, WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Commander, NEW-YORK, 2,150 tons, ROBERT CRAIG, Commander; GLASGOW, 1,800 tons, JOHN DUNCAN, Commander. The Glasgow and New-York Steamship Company intend sailing these new and powerful steamers from New-York to Glasgow direct, as follows:

FROM NEW-YORK.	FROM GLASGOW.
New-York, Saturday, Jan. 16, 12 noon.	

Rates of Passage:

First class, $75; third class, found with cooked provisions, $30. An experienced surgeon attached to each steamer. For freight or passage apply to JAMES RAE-BURN, Agent, No. 12 Broadway, New-York. City bills or gold only received for passage.

FOR SOUTHAMPTON AND HAVRE.—THE United States Mail Steamer ARAGO D. LEES, Commander, will leave for Havre, touching at Southampton, with the mail and passengers, on SATURDAY, Jan. 1, at 12 o'clock, from Pier No. 54, North River.

FOR THE SOUTH.

FOR NORFOLK, PETERSBURG AND RICHMOND.—The United States mail steamship JAMESTOWN, Capt. Parsons, will leave on SATURDAY, 19th inst., at 3 o'clock P. M., from Pier No 13 North River. She will arrive at Norfolk on Sunday afternoon and at Richmond on Monday morning. Passengers for the South will proceed directly on by the Great Southern Mail Line. Travelers will find this the cheapest, safest and most expeditious route. Passage and fare, including $8 stateroom, to Norfolk, $8 to Petersburg and Richmond, $10; steerage half-price. Apply to LUDLAM & PLEASANTS, No. 32 Broadway.

FOR SAVANNAH AND FLORIDA—UNITED STATES MAIL LINE.—The favorite steamship FLORIDA, Captain ISAAC CROWELL, will leave on SATURDAY, Dec. 19, at 2 o'clock P. M., from Pier No. 4 North River. Bills of lading signed only on board. For freight or passage, apply to SAMUEL L. MITCHILL, No. 32 Broadway.

Steamers for Florida connect at Savannah, leaving every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY.

RAILROADS.

NEW-YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD.—ON and after Monday, Nov. 9, 1857, and until further notice, passenger trains will leave pier foot of Duane-st., as follows, viz.:

Buffalo Express, at 9 A. M., for Dunkirk and Buffalo and intermediate stations.

Buffalo Passenger, at 3 P. M., from foot of Chambers-st., for Piermont, Goshen and intermediate stations.

Way Passenger, at 4 P. M., for Newburg, Middletown and intermediate stations.

Emigrant, at 5 P. M., for Dunkirk and Buffalo and intermediate stations.

The above trains run daily, Sundays excepted.

Night Express, at 5 P. M., for Dunkirk and Buffalo, every day.

These Express trains connect at Elmira with the Elmira, Canandaigua and Niagara Falls Railroad, for Niagara Falls; at Binghamton with the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad, for Syracuse; at Corning with Buffalo, Corning and New-York Railroad, for Rochester; at Hornellsville with the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad for Scranton; at Hornellsville with the Buffalo and New-York City Railroad, for Buffalo; at Buffalo and Dunkirk with the Lake Shore Railroad, for Cleveland, Cincinnati, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, &c.

CHARLES MORAN, President.

NEW-YORK AND HARLEM RAILROAD.—WINTER ARRANGEMENT.—Commencing Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1857.

TRAINS LEAVE DEPOT CORNER OF WHITE AND CENTRE STS.

9¼ A. M.—Mail train for Albany, stopping at all stations north of Williams Bridge.
4¼ P. M.—White Plains train, stopping at all stations.

LEAVE TWENTY-FIFTH-ST.

6 A. M.—Williams Bridge train, stopping at all stations.
11¾ A. M.—White Plains train, stopping at all stations.
2½ P. M.—Williams Bridge train, stopping at all stations.
3 P. M.—Millerton train, stopping at Williams Bridge and all stations north.
4 P. M.—The Croton Falls train, stopping at all stations.
6 P. M.—Williams Bridge train, stopping at all stations.

WM. J. CAMPBELL, Superintendent.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NEW-JERSEY.—Connecting at New-Hampton with the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, and at Easton with the Lehigh Valley Railroad.

FALL ARRANGEMENT.—Commencing Oct. 26, 1857. Leave New-York for Easton and intermediate places from Pier No. 2 North River, at 7:30 A. M., 12 M., and 3:30 P. M.; for Somerville, by above trains and at 4:30 P. M. The above trains connect at Elizabeth with trains on the Central Railroad, which leave New-York from foot of Cortlandt-st. at 7:30 and 11 A. M., 3:30 and 4 P. M. Passengers for the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad will leave at 7:30 A. M. only; for Lehigh Valley Railroad at 7:30 A. M. and 12 M. only.

JOHN O. STEARNS, Superintendent.

NEW-JERSEY RAILROAD.—FOR PHILADELPHIA AND THE SOUTH AND WEST, *via* JERSEY CITY.—Mail and Express Line.—Leave New-York at 8 and 11 A. M. and 4 and 6 P. M., 63; 12 M., $2 25; stopping at all way stations. Through tickets sold for Cincinnati and the West, Louisville, Kentucky, Memphis and New-Orleans, and through baggage checked to Washington in 8 A. M. and 6 P. M.

R. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Superintendent.

No baggage will be received for any train, unless delivered and checked 15 minutes in advance of the time of leaving.

HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.—From Dec. 7, 1857, trains will leave Chambers-st. as follows: Express trains 6½ and 11½ A. M. and 6:45 P. M.; Freight and Accommodation train at 8½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.; Poughkeepsie train at 1½ P. M. From 21st-st. only, and passenger train at 5½ P. M. from Chambers-st. Sing Sing train at 8 A. M. Passengers taken at Chambers, Christopher and 23d-sts. Stations only. Trains for New-York leave Troy 2:15 A. M., 12:25 and 6:15 P. M., and East Albany at 2:20 A. M., 12:55 and 6:35 P. M.

FLUSHING RAILROAD.—LEAVES FULTON Ferry at Wharf, by steamer ISLAND CITY, at 8 and 10 A. M., 1, 2:30, and 5 P. M. The cars leave Flushing, L. I., at 9 A. M. and 12 M., 3 and 6 P. M. The cars leave Flushing in connection with the boat at Hunter's Point—through in 30 minutes. Fare 25 cents.

WM. M. SMITH, Receiver.

NOTICE.—CHANGE OF TIME FOR BOSTON.—The morning Express Train now leaving New-York at 9 A. M. will on and after MONDAY, the 21st inst., leave at 8 A. M.

J. H. BOYD, Superintendent.

FINANCIAL.

[illegible] GOLD AND SILVER.

OFFICE OF THE OSWEGO AND SYRACUSE RAILROAD COMPANY, SYRACUSE, Dec. 14, 1857.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Oswego and Syracuse Railroad Company will be held at the Office of the Company, in SYRACUSE, on WEDNESDAY, the 6th day of January, 1858, at 12 o'clock M., for the election of Directors for the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may then be considered necessary. The Transfer Books will be closed on the 15th day of December, inst., and remain closed until after the Annual Meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors.
JOHN WILKINSON, Secretary.

THE EXCHANGE AGENCY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, Office, 54 BEEKMAN, HOWE & CO., No. 54 William-st., New-York, Dec. 14, 1857.—The Stock of the State of Illinois, bearing interest at 6 per cent, and redeemable in 1870, is offered for sale by the undersigned, Fiscal Agents of the State of Illinois, who are duly authorized to receive subscriptions for the same. Said stock is exempt from taxation, and is issued in denominations of $100, $500 and $1,000, to suit purchasers. Interest payable semi-annually at the Bank of Commerce, New-York. Subscriptions will be received at this Agency. NORRIS KELLOGG, Transfer Agent.

THE ATTENTION OF THE STOCK HOLDERS of the Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana Railroad Company is called to the fact that the next interest half-year of suspension, on the bonds of the said company issued by the Board of Directors, Nov. 25, 1857, will be due on the 1st of January, 1858.

WILLIAM WALCOTT, Treasurer.
New-York, Dec. 11, 1857.

CASH ORDERS FOR THE PURCHASE and sale of Stocks and Bonds solicited by MEIGS & GREENLEAF, No. 23 William-st., New-York.
REFERENCES—Bank of the Republic, American Exchange Bank, Metropolitan Bank, Merchants' Bank.

MISSOURI STATE INTEREST.—THE COUPONS due 1st of January next, on all Bonds of the State of Missouri, will be paid on presentation after that date, at the Bank of Commerce in New-York.

H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

THE INTEREST ON BONDS OF THE City of Marysville, and also on bonds of the County of Yuba, Cal., due in the City of New-York Jan. 1, 1858, will be paid on presentation of Coupons at the American Exchange Bank, New-York, after that date.

MARK BRUMAGIM & CO.

ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.—Dealers will this Company wishing to dispose of their scrip before the close of the year, can obtain fair prices for it at the office of WM. C. GILMAN & SON, No. 118 Merchants' Exchange.

$100,000—TO INVEST IN THE PURCHASE OF BONDS and Mortgages at 7 per cent, in sums of $1,000, $2,000, $3,000, or $5,000. Also, temporary loans effected on Bonds and Mortgages, and other first-class securities.

CHARLES R. MILLER, No. 14 Pine-st.

NOTICE.—THE INTEREST DUE THIS DAY, IN this City on New-York Central Railroad Company's 7 per cent Bonds, will be paid, at the office of

DUNCAN, SHERMAN & CO.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO., NO. 59 WALL-st., issue Credits for Commercial and Traveling purposes, available in any part of the world.

DIVIDENDS.

NEW-YORK CITY, Dec. 13, 1857.

AS A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF Directors of the New-Jersey Zinc Company, held This Day, a Dividend of Four Per Cent. was declared on the Preferred Stock, and to be payable on and after Monday, the 4th of January next. The Transfer Books of the Preferred Stock will be closed from the 20th inst. to 4th January next, inclusive.

The following gentlemen were elected Officers of the Company, viz.:

HENRY AITKIN, President.
WM. REDMOND, Vice-President.
A. E. BARLIN, Treasurer.
T. E. WEEKS, Secretary.

H. AITKIN, Secretary.

FULTON BANK, New-York, Dec. 14, 1857.

THE FULTON BANK WILL PAY A SEMI-ANNUAL dividend of Five per cent. (5) to the Stockholders on and after the 21 day of January next. (This dividend is in lieu of the usual dividend to be declared for November, which was omitted to be declared at that period.)

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 19th inst. to the 1st proximo, inclusive.

By order of the Board of Directors.
(Signed.) W. J. LANE, Cashier.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.—OFFICE DELAWARE and Hudson Canal Company, New-York, Dec. 7, 1857.—The Board of Managers of this Company have declared a semi-annual dividend of four per cent. out of the profits of the Company, payable on and after SATURDAY, the 26th inst., at the office of the Company, No. 23 William-st., corner of Exchange-place. The transfer books are now closed, and will remain closed until the morning of the 21st inst. By order of the Board,

ISAAC W. SEYMOUR, Treasurer.

DIVIDEND.—PARK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 337 Broadway, corner of Park-place, New-York, Dec. 14, 1857.—The Board of Directors of this Company have declared a semi-annual dividend of SIX PER CENT., payable on and after the 2d of January next. The Transfer Books will be closed on the 20th inst.

WM. JAFFRAY, Secretary.

BOWERY BANK.—DIVIDEND.—A FIRST Dividend of 40 per cent. will be paid on demand on and after this date, to the creditors of the Bowery Bank, upon all claims ascertained and established against said Bank, prior to the 11th inst.

JOHN A. STEWART, Receiver.

UNION BANK, New-York, Dec. 16, 1857.

DIVIDEND.—THIS BANK WILL PAY A DIVIDend of four per cent. to the stockholders on and after the 2d January next. The transfer books will be closed from the 24th inst. to the 2d proximo. By order of the board of Directors. E. H. ARTAUD, Cashier.

BANK NOTICES.

MARINERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION—Corner 3d-av. and 9th-st. Moneys deposited on or before the 1st of January will bear interest from that date at the rate of 6 per cent. Interest allowed on all sums of $500 and under and 5 per cent. on sums over that amount. Bank open daily from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M., and on Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 5 o'clock to 8 o'clock.

THOMAS S. STILLMAN, President.

PETER W. ENOS, } Vice-Presidents.
CHARLES MILES, }

ISAAC T. SMITH, Secretary.

EAST RIVER SAVINGS BANK.—NO. 2 Chambers-st., two doors from Chatham. Interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum will be paid on sums from $5 to $600, inclusive, and 5 per cent. on sums over $600. All money deposited on or before the 9th day of January, will draw interest from the 1st of January. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M., and on Thursday from 5 to 7 P. M. PETER H. TITUS, President.

C. A. WHITNEY, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION, No. 69 Warren-st., one door from Greenwich-st.—Interest at the rate of six per cent. on sums from $1 to $500. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M., and on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 4 to 7 P. M.

V. L. BERTON, Sec'y. W. W. CONOKLIN, Pres.

METROPOLITAN BANK, NO. 108 BROADWAY.—New-York, December 8, 1857. The balance of the increased Capital Stock of this Bank is required to be paid on or before Tuesday, the 22d inst. By order.

GEO. L. SENEY, Cashier.

BANK OF NEW-YORK.—NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the second installment of $25 per share on the new subscription to the stock of the Bank of New-York, payable on the 2d of January next, will not be called for until further notice.

W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

MARINERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION—23d-av., corner 9th-st., open daily from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M., and on Wednesday and Saturday from 5 to 8 P. M. Interest allowed on deposits. I. T. SMITH, Sec.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

THE NEW-ENGLAND SOCIETY IN THE City of New-York will celebrate the 237th anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims, at the Church of the Messiah, (Rev. Dr. Osgood's,) Broadway, opposite Waverley-place, on MONDAY EVENING, Dec. 21, at 7½ o'clock. Oration by Rev. R. S. STORRS, Jr., D. D. Seats free. The 52d annual meeting for the election of officers and the transaction of business will be held at the Astor House on TUESDAY, Dec. 22, at 12 o'clock M. The Society, with their guests and friends will dine at the Astor House on TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 22, at 6 o'clock. Hon. STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, Hon. FRANCIS P. BLAIR, Jr., and R. H. DANA, Jr., Esq., have accepted invitations to the dinner; and it is expected that Right Hon. Lord MAYOR, Hon. N. P. BANKS, CHARLES MACKAY, L.L.D., and Governor KING, with other distinguished men, will also be present. Tickets may be obtained of the officers of the Society and at the Astor House.

L. F. HUBBARD, Secretary.

LADIES' FAIR.—THE LADIES OF THE FREE Church of the Epiphany, will hold a Fair for the benefit of said Church in the basement of the same, No. 130 Stanton-st., between Essex and Norfolk sts., on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY, Dec. 16, 17 and 18, from 11 A. M. to 10 P. M. The attendance and patronage of all friendly to the object are respectfully invited.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL SOCIETY.—A meeting will be held at its rooms THIS (Thursday) EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, when a paper from Lieut. BERRYMAN, U. S. N., *On the Soundings for the Atlantic Cable*, will be presented, and the Section on Astronomy will be organized.

DONATION VISIT.—THE FRIENDS OF REV. H. E. LOUNSBURY are respectfully solicited to attend a Donation Visit on THURSDAY EVENING, the 17th inst., at the residence of Mr. H. M. WELLS, No. 86 Morton-st. By order of Committee.

REV. CHARLES F. HARRIS WILL PREACH THIS Thursday EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, in the Church of M. E. Church; also by request, on SABBATH AFTERNOON, Dec. 20, at 3 o'clock, to the Veterans of 1812. The public generally are invited to attend. Seats free.

GERMAN SOCIETY.—A GENERAL MEETING of this society will be held on FRIDAY, Dec. 18, at 7½ o'clock P. M., in the basement of St. Matthew Church, Walker-st. Punctual attendance is requested.

E. ROCHOLL, Secretary.

LAND WARRANTS.

U. S. LAND WARRANTS—INDISPENSABLE TO TRAVELERS—Issued through J. B. JONES, No. 27 Pine-st., and Washington. Advice free. No. 376 West 22d-st., corner of 9th-av. Office hours 9 to 5. Evenings, Sundays, Holidays, Rules Nos. &c., prevented.

WANTS.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A MAN AND wife, in a private family, or as steward and matron of a boarding-house. The husband has lived in the first families, and would not object to go to sea. The wife is a first-rate cook, washer and ironer, and is willing to make herself generally useful. Apply at No. 107 Madison-av.

WANTED—SITUATIONS, BY THE MOST RESPECTable, and trustworthy Protestant servants, for every description of work, from the highest to the lowest, through the country, or in the city. Apply at No. 10 Bond-st., between Broadway and Lafayette-place.

WANTED—BY A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN, a Protestant, a situation as nurse to a child, or to do chamber-work and sewing. Can be seen at No. 20 Bleecker-st., between Broadway and Mercer-st.

WANTED—A SITUATION, BY A RESPECTABLE young woman, as chambermaid and seamstress, or to do chamber-work and sewing in a small family

The New-York Times

NEW-YORK: THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 1857.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

The DAILY TIMES is published every morning—price five cents; forwarded at two cents a week; mailed at $3 a year.

The SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES—three Dollars a year; two copies for Five Dollars.

The WEEKLY TIMES—two Dollars a year; eight copies for Twelve Dollars; Clubs of larger numbers at Twenty cents.

All payments invariably in advance.

All letters to be addressed to the "New-York Times, cor. of Nassau and Spruce-sts., New-York City."

The Correspondence.

Communications and matter for insertion, All communications and matter to be accompanied by the author's name, not for publication, but as a guarantee of the author's good faith.

We cannot undertake to return communications that may be sent for publication.

Voluntary correspondence containing important news, from all quarters of the world, is solicited. If used, it will be liberally paid for.

We desire to repeat our standing notice that under no circumstances will anonymous communications receive any attention.

Advertising Agents.

Mr. H. D. Lewis, No. 31 Wall-street, Bridgeport, Conn., is agent for the DAILY, WEEKLY and SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Nothing had been heard of the expected European steamers up to the time of going to press this morning.

Express robbers were considered in both Houses of Congress yesterday. In the Senate, after the announcement of the Standing Committees, and their adoption, after considerable fault-finding, Mr. GREEN, of Missouri, proceeded to deliver his prepared speech in answer to Senator DOUGLAS, and was followed by the latter gentleman in rejoinder. The remarks of both will be found in our report of the proceedings. The Senate also adopted a resolution offered by Mr. GWIN, calling on the President for all the correspondence between Governor WALKER and the Administration, together with all orders and instructions issued to the Governor. Consideration of the Kansas question is to be again resumed on Monday. The House met in the new Hall, and the members selected their seats by lottery. The bill for the Payment of Invalid and other Pensions was reported from the Committee of Ways and Means. Messrs. BISCOE and WHYTE, of Baltimore, sent in memorials contesting the seats of Messrs. DAVIS and HARRIS for reasons growing out of the riots at the election in that city. A report from the Printing Committee, in favor of printing 20,000 extra copies of the President's Message, was then received, and called up Mr. COX, Democratic member for Ohio, who proceeded, at considerable length, to dissent from the views of the President in reference to Kansas affairs, and to denounce the action of the Lecompton Constitutional Convention, and concluded by giving notice of his intention to introduce a proposition to enable the people of Kansas to settle the matter by a popular vote. Mr. COX was followed by Mr. HUGHES, of Indiana, who expressed his opinion of the subject when the Administration were believed to be in trouble, and clouds were gathering round the Democratic Party. An interesting discussion then ensued between the gentlemen on the merits of the question, and the report of the Printing Committee was finally adopted. No other business of importance was transacted.

The Sachems of Tammany held a special meeting yesterday afternoon, and passed resolutions refusing to permit the advertised Democratic meeting to be held this evening in Tammany Hall, and declaring that those who called it were not the true representatives of the party in this City. Those entrusted the use of the hall for a mass meeting called by a majority of the new General Committee to be held next Wednesday, and complimented President BUCHANAN by resolutions adroitly worded concerning the Kansas matter. Sachem GIDEON J. TUCKER alone opposed those of the resolutions which denied the use of the hall for this evening.

The Board of Supervisors yesterday resolved, unanimously, to give the fees in the Parish will case to Hon. ALEXANDER W. BRADFORD, Surrogate, as a testimonial of the high esteem in which he is held by the people, the bar and the Board. A resolution was passed, giving the Court of General Sessions power to appoint its own attendants; also another, giving the Recorder an additional Clerk, at a salary of $1,000.

The Board of Councilmen met on Wednesday. The whole Calendar was got through in committee, but it contained nothing special. In the early part of the evening, Councilman OTTERSON brought up the report of the Special Committee of the Women's Hospital, recommending the appropriation of a site for the building, which report and the appended resolution were unanimously referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The Board of Education met last evening and transacted a large amount of routine business. A report was received from the Commissioners of Finance on the estimate of the Board's expenses for the ensuing year, and requiring its correction by striking out an overplus of $109,962 81, and refusing to indorse the claim for $125,000 arrears for 1854. At 8½ o'clock an adjournment took place.

The bids for building the new Arsenal were opened yesterday. Thirty-six bids were made, and the estimates differ very materially. The Commissioners take two or three days to examine matters before announcing their determination.

Yesterday, Judge ROOSEVELT granted a writ of error and a stay of proceedings in the Cangemi case, to allow an appeal to be taken to the Court of Appeals. He thought that by the act of 1855 no discretion is left to the Judge, but he is "absolutely bound, when applied to by any person convicted of a capital crime, to issue the writ and stay the execution." He remarks that this disposition to unite with the full concurrence of the Chief Justice, who heard the arguments at the General Term.

Recorder SMITH passed a heavy sentence yesterday in the Court of Sessions. ROBERT MATTHEWS, a colored man, on Nov. 6, at No. 162 West Broadway, stabbed WILLIAM MARSHALL, also a colored man, with a dirk-knife, inflicting several serious wounds. The affray arose out of some disputes which had taken place between the wives of these parties. On the Jury returning a verdict of guilty, the Recorder sentenced MATTHEWS to nine years and six months in the State Prison. JAMES McGOV and BERNARD CARR, convicted of grand larceny, were sentenced to three years and six months each in the State Prison. PETER OMAN and JOHN JACKSON were tried for grand larceny, and acquitted. HENRY E. PHELPS, charged with assaulting HUGH GALLAGHER, was acquitted.

In the Superior Court the Appleton Oakesmith case, in relation to the insurance for some muskets sent to South America, has been on trial for a few days. On Tuesday a witness against Mr. OAKESMITH was standing in the entry of the Court, when he was addressed by Mr. OAKESMITH in relation to his evidence just delivered, which he pronounced false. Some angry conversation ensued, and the witness was threatened with a toss over the balustrade into the Park. On the resumption of the trial a witness against Mr. OAKESMITH declined the protection of the Court, and related the circumstance. Judge DUER inquired into the matter, and finally held Mr. OAKESMITH to bail in the sum of $1,000 to keep the peace, and to appear on Thursday next, to show cause why he should not be punished for contempt of Court.

Mary WILLIAMS, JOHN STEARS and KATE CONNORS, colored girls, were arrested yesterday for committing a robbery on Tuesday evening at the residence of MARGARET JACOBS, No. 82 Oliver-street. They drove west into the store together, and stealing a box containing gold watches and jewelry, valued at $1,500, ran off with it in their carriage. Most of the stolen property was recovered, and the accused locked up in the Tombs for trial.

The First Cattle Show at the Crystal Palace is still open. Some very fine specimens are on exhibition. The Hamas, whose arrival at this port was announced yesterday, are to be seen at the Palace.

A fire in the Fourth District last evening, between 5 and 6 o'clock, was caused by a [illegible] while in the hands of Mrs. [illegible], No. 6 Jefferson-place, in Sixth-[illegible], between Bleecker and West Eleventh-[illegible]. Mrs. [illegible] was very severely burned on her arms and right side. She ran down the stairs and into the street in a blaze, where she met her husband, who was just entering. He immediately extinguished the flames and thus saved the life of his wife. They have only been married one week. The alarm of fire in the Third District at 74 o'clock last evening was caused by the bursting of a camphene lamp on the upper story of No. 68 Dominick-street, occupied by THOMAS S. GUILLAM. The damage was trifling.

The Sabbath-School Anniversary of the City Schools connected with the M. E. Church, was held in the Greene-street Church last evening. Bishop JANES presided, and addresses were made by Dr. JOHN MCCLINTOCK and Rev. J. B. WAKELEY. Five hundred dollars were raised to liquidate the indebtedness of the Schools in this City for the year past.

The General Markets, yesterday, were quite heavy for the leading kinds of Breadstuffs. Flour declined 5 cents per bbl., and Wheat 2c.@4c. cents per bushel. The demand was less animated. Corn was salable and steady. Provisions were dull, and for most descriptions prices favored buyers. Groceries were active, especially Coffee and Teas, free sales of which were effected previously and by auction at full rates. Public sale of 10,000 tons Scranton Coal occurred yesterday. Cotton was heavy and languid. Freights displayed less animation.

Improvement in Trade.

The Bank resumption in this State and New-England is working quietly. The Banks here are strong in Specie. The money is not all their own, but mainly the property of their depositors, who since the October suspension have collected, and returned twenty-two millions dollars to bank, raising the line of undrawn deposits as high as it stood this time last year. The collections from the interior of the country have been chiefly in Specie, so that the Banks now hold TWENTY-EIGHT MILLION dollars in Gold, as against $7,600,000 on the day of suspension. The actual inherent strength and debt-paying capability of the country have supplied the difference, aided as these have been by the timely disbursement of $12,000,000 from the depositories of the Federal Treasury.

It is not Bank management, or Bank policy, that has enabled New-York and New-England to recover their position so promptly. The truth is, that they ought never so far to have lost it as to suspend specie payments, and would not in New-England, or in the interior of this State, had some few of the leading New-York City Banks behaved as they ought to have done in the emergency. But without going back to the origin of the cause, it is sufficient to know that it no longer exists as a hindrance to the regular operation and improvement of credit and trade. These have been set right, and the substantial wealth of the country vindicated, in less time than the Banks required to turn the pressure into a panic.

The evidences of improvement in general trade have, perhaps, been slow to manifest themselves, outside the accumulation of Gold in Bank. But now that this accumulation has been turned to practical account, and that the Banks have resumed payments in full, the country will not look in vain for substantial signs of the return of trade, both foreign and internal, to its accustomed channels. The New-Year will fully inaugurate the better time, which has already dawned upon commercial credit and mutual confidence. The conviction grows stronger every day that much, if not most of the troubles which have shaken these essential elements of business prosperity, ought not to have taken place, and that they were the result, in good part, of the false impression, industriously and for months before propagated in particular quarters, that revulsion and panic were bound to come together.

An attempt, we find, is making to check the present strong tendency to improvement, *by educating the public to believe that resumption* is premature, and the country still bankrupt. But no lasting harm can come of this, however the discussion is to be regretted. There is a lack of principle, as well as the abnegation of consistency, in first advocating a return to specie payments because of the plethora of Gold in Bank, as some of our neighbors have done, and then sounding the alarm that the West and South are not prepared for it; that they will cease to pay their debts to New-York, with either produce or Gold, but, on the contrary, draw Gold from us without an equivalent. Besides, the material capital of the land has already asserted itself. The evidences have come and are now coming from the West in the shape of Gold and grain. They are manifested from the South in the way of the cotton export, now as active as it was this time last year. They are beginning to be felt in the East by the reopening of a number of the suspended mills and factories. They are slowly, but surely, reported from the great Middle States, where preparations are going forward to put the Banks of Philadelphia, Baltimore and Richmond once more on a Specie basis. These movements are not forced, not premature, not the result of mere bank machinery; but the certain and reliable proofs that the real bases of the national prosperity remain sound in all their youth, vigor and integrity.

Walker and his Chances.

The "wise who know" profess to explain the mysterious conduct of certain persons in authority in regard to the "Walker expedition," by prognosticating the speedy annihilation of that distinguished Central American Romulus. It seems that he is not to be considered a Romulus at all, but rather a Remus, whose "vaulting ambition has o'erleaped itself."

The secret "Junta" to whom the arrangement of the Nicaraguan business was confided, and of which Mr. SOULE was a leading member, being convinced, it is said, that WALKER'S "capacity" as a military leader was more than questionable, made up their minds that the warlike interests of the new adventure must be confided, not to him, but to General HERNSDORFF. This arrangement was by no means palatable to the "President of Nicaragua," who has a civilian's passion for tactics and manœuvres. He, therefore, pretended to acquiesce in the plan, but, when the *Fashion* was ready for sea, astutely slipped on board and set off, to the surprise of nobody more than of the "Junta" aforesaid, and to the chagrin of nobody more than of General HERNSDORFF. Of course, he expects that he will be sustained in the step to which he has now committed the fortunes of the "regenerating club," but the attitude of President BUCHANAN, and the delayed departure of General HERNSDORFF, with the presence of that gentleman in Washington, while they countenance the hope in which the story of the plot reaches us, afford reasonable ground for doubting whether the aspiring Tennesseean has not really transgressed the fatal limits of his destiny. The [illegible] of "FULL PROOF"—one as it [illegible] and its possible issues are of a gravity which entitles it to the watchful attention of the public.

Political Plunder.

It is greatly to the credit of our leading politicians that, however willing they may be to compromise themselves for the sake of gaining an elevated position, they leave the "plunder" of the public treasury to the underlings of party, who surround themselves while those above them remain in poverty. No President has ever yet left the office with a suspicion of peculation resting upon him, and the prominent members of the Government, with, perhaps, a single exception, have never been accused of enriching themselves at the public expense. The plunder that is obtained from the Treasury is not by the aid of Government officials, but by Congressional Committees and lobby management. There is no personal responsibility for an act of Congress, or a Congressional Committee, and members vote for measures, or at least wink at them, which they would not dare to countenance if they were to be held responsible personally.

The public printing is regarded as a legitimate piece of public robbery, and it is bestowed on some political favorite, or party *serf*, as a reward for past services, and there is no disgrace attached to a fortune made by such jobbery. But there is another job at Washington which has been increasing in importance the past few years, but has not attracted the attention of the country, because it is not disposed of by a Congressional vote. This is the *binding*, which, it is said, amounts to about $300,000 for every Congress, and is the source of very large profits to the contractor. This fat contract is disposed of by the Committee on Printing in both Houses, who usually bestow it upon some party *friend*, who immediately sells the contract to a practical binder for a handsome bonus. The individual who obtained the job for the House binding of the last Congress sold his contract, it has been stated, for a profit of about $40,000, and the fortunate gentleman who has obtained the Senate binding for several years, has acquired a princely fortune, which, to give him due credit, he spends in a princely manner, and sets the example of a public-spirited person who has made his money out of the public, spending it in part for the public good. This wealthy binder is named MCGUIRE, and his career is a striking exemplification of Yankee enterprise and perseverance. He was some time an auctioneer in Washington, but he came to Washington some years ago, in the time of JACKSON, a poor youth, from the Western part of Pennsylvania, without a shilling in his pocket, to seek for employment. He found his way by accident into the establishment of PETER FORCE, and acquired a practical knowledge of bookbinding, and soon after he secured a contract for Congressional binding, and has contrived to continue in the business ever since. He is now one of the wealthiest men of the District, has the best library, the finest picture gallery, and the choicest wine cellar. But our statesmen, to their credit be it said, have left Washington, generally, quite as poor as they entered it.

The Congressional binding has now become so important an item in the national expenditure that it will probably be made the subject *of a closer investigation than it has ever* yet received, and as Mr. COBB has determined upon a system of rigid economy in the public expenditures, he may think it worth his while to look into the subject of the public binding. The circumstance of a public binder making a princely fortune in a few years may awaken a curiosity on his part to know how it was done. It is said the Congressional binding of Congress amounts to some $50,000 more than the entire expenditure of Congress for binding, printing, stationery, &c., did ten years ago.

The Great Fire and the Great Panic.

If DANTE'S doctrine be sound, (which by the way we have never believed it to be,) that the sharpest sting of fate is "the recollection of past felicity in days of present woe," or, as a modern poet puts it, that

> "A sorrow's crown of sorrow
> Is remembering happier things,"—

then it certainly should be true that men ought to find comfort under affliction in recalling heaven's afflictions laid upon them in the days gone by. And our readers, who are oppressed by the weight of the financial pressure of 1857, may therefore perhaps relieve their minds a little by reflecting on the severer sufferings to which they or their immediate predecessors awoke just twenty-two years ago this day. The night of the 16th of December, 1835, swept away a world of wealth in this good City of New-York—a world not of fictitious wealth in scrip and stock and "inflated paper," but of solid and substantial property in houses and stores and ships and goods. It ruined all the insurance offices and half the merchants of the city. It paralyzed not figuratively but literally the commerce and the industry of the metropolis.

Yet the metropolis survived—survived to bear all the calamities of 1837—to endure all the chances and changes of so many eventful years, and to meet the storm of 1857 with a capacity of distress and disaster as fresh as if the name of misfortune had never been heard in our borders before. We may surely take courage then from the retrospect which this warning suggests. Bad as our present position may be, we have been worse off by far before, and we enjoy many mitigations of our trouble which were lacking then. One feature alone of the present Winter ought to nerve us in thankfulness. The terrible severity of the weather in December, 1835, has passed into a proverb like those mediæval "cold snaps" which still freeze in the pages of the monkish Merlams. How the pipes were [illegible] ice, and the engines stiffened under the grasp of the firemen—how the very dog died with the intense cold, crackled about the crushed crowds and seemed itself ready to burst into conflagration under the snow of flakes and burning faggots which showered incessantly down—all these pertinacious features of that great "crisis" are vivid as the events of yesterday, in the minds of those who witnessed them. Now, on the contrary, December wears the frost and breathes the breath of Autumn. The bitterest pangs of privation are spared to the myriads of our people upon whom privation has fallen, and the material skies are an argument to overcome and hope by. All wherein difficulties can be overcome by patience, spirit and energy. The history of the fire of 1835 might profitably be set before the despondents of to-day. Nor would it lack interest to any. For, like all great disasters, the "great fire" left a lesson of the value of quick-witted expedients and ready resource behind it. Do not the chroniclers tell us how, when all natural applications had failed, the flames were extinguished at one point by a barrel of vinegar, at another by a baptism of costly Madeira, at a third by the cool determination of a band of marines summoned by a courageous Editor at the risk of his life, and marching each man with his keg of gunpowder under his arm through the thickest of the danger up to the heart of the conflagration? It will not much redound to our credit if the New-York of 1857 cannot master the "panic" and overcome its consequences at least as well as the New-York of 1835 dealt with the "Great Fire."

Arcades in Broadway.

One of the unfavorable effects of the hard times has been a complete stoppage of improvements in Broadway, which have been going on for the past five years at a most rapid rate, and on a scale of great magnificence. Five years more of prosperous times would have brought about splendid changes and made it really, what it is often even now said to be, the finest street in the world. Even in its present condition of promiscuous splendor and irregular magnificence Doctor MACKAY says, in one of his letters to the London *Illustrated News*, it is a finer street than either the Rue Rivoli in Paris, or Regent-street in London. However that may be, Broadway is a very fine street, and irregular as the buildings are, it makes a noble appearance. But it is capable of great improvement, and, in time, it doubtless will be one of the finest avenues of city traffic in the world. But we shall have to wait a few years before it can become the crowning glory of our great metropolis.

Unfortunately for us, the founders of the City were not blessed with a prophetic vision, or they would have seen the possible grandeur to which New-York might attain, and then they would have made the main street of the City sufficiently wide to accommodate the travel which must be forced through it daily. Twenty feet added to the width of our great avenue in the beginning would have saved us now many millions of dollars. But, instead of grumbling at our ancestors for not making Broadway wider, let us rather be grateful to them for having the sagacity to give us the street it all, and try to repair the blunder they committed. Broadway must be widened, and the enlargement is only a question of time. It must be done sooner or later, and the sooner the better way of doing shall be determined, the better will it be for the interests of the City.

There have been various methods of relieving Broadway suggested—one man has proposed a suspension railroad, and another a subterranean one; but neither of these plans affords what is desired—relief to the street without impairing its beauty and attractiveness. To pull down the buildings on either side would involve such a fearful expense that that plan cannot be entertained for a moment. The only plan we have seen which would effectually relieve the street and at the same time add to *its attractiveness without the outlay of an extravagant sum*, has been proposed by an "Engineer," who publishes his plans in *Harper's Weekly*. This plan is not, strictly speaking, a new one, as something similar to it was proposed some time ago in the columns of this journal. But the "Engineer" in question is entitled to the credit of having published the first practical plan for the accomplishment of this desirable object. He has accompanied his written ideas with handsome drawings, exhibiting the effect of his design, and given a clear general idea of the manner in which it may be put into execution. His plan is simply to remove all the sidewalks, lamp-posts, hydrants, and every other obstacle from the street, and throw the entire width into a carriage-way. For a sidewalk, or promenade, he proposes to take thirteen feet from the fronts of the buildings on each side, and convert the first story into an arcade, leaving the frontage above unchanged. Fortunately for the execution of this plan, the stores on Broadway are sufficiently deep to be able to spare this room without at all injuring them for business purposes, and their increased value as stores would more than compensate for the loss of space. Broadway might thus be made a succession of magnificent arcades, on both sides, from the Bowling Green to Union-square. This would render it, indeed, the most magnificent street in the world, and it would become, more than ever, the favorite promenade of the metropolis. It would lose something of its brilliancy and showiness by the gay promenaders being partially hid beneath the arcades, but there would be always a gallant show, and as the covered walk would afford a shelter from the weather, our ladies would, if that were possible, attire themselves more sumptuously for a walk in Broadway than they do now. "Engineer" accompanies his designs of the arcades for the Broadway fronts, with views of the Rue Rivoli and Rue Castiglione in Paris, both of those streets being built with arcades in the manner proposed.

It is suggested that the better way of carrying this design into execution would be to commence with the lower part of Broadway, from St. Paul's Church down to the Battery. But it would be a better plan to make the change, block by block, until the entire thoroughfare should be completed. The most important portion is at present opposite the Park, and that should be done, whether the City should advance it or whether it should be by the combination of the property. The latter plan, however, would be to follow the rule adopted in other cases of street openings and improvements, and let the City and the property each bear its portion of the cost.

The scheme is a much more practical one than may at the first glance appear to those who have not examined it, and we hope there may be a discussion of it by the new City government; and, if it should not be adopted, it may lead to the adoption of some other plan which will answer the the same purpose.

Wiggins, Esq., who was riding in a Boston city railroad car, and having very properly refused to pay his fare, because he was not provided with a seat, he was ejected forcibly from the carriage by the Conductor, and has brought a suit against the Company for damages. The sympathies of the whole traveling public are with WIGGINS, and we shall watch for the termination of his suit with great interest. Of course, WIGGINS will win, if the decision rests with a Jury of honest men, and then we trust that there may be some public-spirited individual in this City who will imitate the example of the Boston Curtius, and get himself ejected from a railroad car, or an omnibus, so that he may have the question of a passenger's right to a seat tested before a legal tribunal.

If it is not a part of the duty of the railroads to provide seats for their passengers, why not have cars without any seats at all? It would be much cheaper, and the cars would hold a much greater number of persons. But we await the decision of the Boston suit, and trust that our cotemporaries, in alluding to the individual who has instituted it, will remember that his name is WIGGIN, not WIGGINS. There are twenty different ways of spelling the name of SHAKESPEARE, yet there is never any doubt as to the individual alluded to; but in the case of WIGGIN it is different. WIGGIN and WIGGINS, though so much alike in sound, are very different persons. There are many WIGGINSES, but there is only one WIGGIN. We wish there were more like him.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—POSTPONEMENT.—The great classical performance announced for to-night is postponed until Saturday. The Manager publishes a card elsewhere, from which it appears that the postponement is necessitated by the continued indisposition of Herr FORMES. The Manager also states that there is every reason to believe that Herr FORMES will be sufficiently recovered to sing on Saturday.

THE DEMOCRACY.

Meeting of the Sachems of Tammany Society—They Refuse the Use of Tammany Hall for the Democratic Meeting to-night.

A special meeting of the Sachems was held yesterday afternoon, at Tammany Hall, in relation to a meeting announced for this evening at Tammany, for the purpose of indorsing the sentiments expressed in the President's Message.

It was alleged that a notice was circulated privately, calling a meeting at the St. Nicholas Hotel, (Room No. 234,) for the purpose of making arrangements for the meeting of this evening, and that the call was issued without the knowledge of any of the responsible members or representatives of the Democratic Party.

The Sachems refused the use of the hall to the Committee of Arrangements, but passed a resolution granting the use of the room to the General Committee elect, a majority of whom had signed a request asking the right to hold a meeting for the same purpose, as not entirely distinct from that of the St. Nicholas origin.

At the meeting of Sachems Mr. KENNEDY presided. *The following resolutions were presented* by Sachem FOWLER:

1. *Whereas*, A call has been published over the signature of a number of gentlemen assuming to be a Committee of Arrangements, for a public meeting at Tammany Hall, on Thursday evening, 17th inst.; and the lessee of Tammany Hall has been notified by a Committee on their behalf of the intention to hold such meeting; and

2. *Whereas*, Mr. CHARLES BROWN, the lessee of Tammany Hall, has referred the application for the use of that building to this Council, with the request that it would decide thereon; and

3. *Whereas*, The said meeting, not having been called by the constituted representatives of the Democratic Party, would be unauthorized and irregular, and this Council is apprehensive that it would be used for purposes foreign to those expressed in the call, and calculated to injure and distract the Democratic Party; therefore,

4. *Resolved*, That the use of Tammany Hall for the meeting above specified is hereby denied; and

5. *Resolved*, A majority of the General Committee for 1856 have presented an application to this Council, stating that the General Committee for the present year has adjourned *sine die*, and requesting the use of Tammany Hall for the purpose of holding a mass meeting to declare the sentiments of the Democracy of this City relative to National politics, and to reiterate the expression of their confidence in and support of the Administration of JAMES BUCHANAN; and

6. *Whereas*, The gentlemen making such application are the persons having now the best right to represent the Democracy of this City, and it is eminently proper that such meeting should be held; therefore

7. *Resolved*, The use of Tammany shall be granted for the purpose of holding a mass meeting on Wednesday evening, the 23d inst., in pursuance of the last-mentioned application; and

8. *Whereas*, This Council being specially convened for the purpose of acting upon matters of interest to the Democratic Party, deem it proper to declare their own sentiments in relation to the topic of a National character now agitating the public mind; therefore,

9. *Resolved*, That this Council have unabated confidence in the Administration of JAMES BUCHANAN; that the energy, firmness and wisdom which have marked it eminently justify the sagacity and foresight manifested by the people in his triumphant election; and that a sincere and zealous support of it will continue to be the rallying cry of every true and national Democrat.

10. *Resolved*, That the result of the recent State election has proven, beyond all possibility of cavil, the esteem in which the present National Administration is held by the people of this State as well as of the City.

11. *Resolved*, That we respond with heartiness and enthusiasm to the recent Message of President BUCHANAN; that its sound, Democratic doctrine, its wise and comprehensive policy, and its liberal yet conservative tone, commend it to the approval of judicious men of all parties; and that, especially, upon the subject of Kansas we regard it as securing to the people of that Territory the free expression of their will upon the only subject which has divided them, and as just toward all sections of the Union.

12. *Resolved*, That we recommend our Democratic friends to be liberal and conciliatory to each other; to be resolute in their determination to preserve their unions of purpose, attachment and organization; to look to the future and not to the past, and to bend all their energies to maintain the Democratic standard, and secure the continued triumph of the Democratic cause.

Sachem GIDEON J. TUCKER raised an objection to a portion of the resolutions, on the ground that it was unadvisable to refuse the use of the Hall to any party claiming to be Democrats. He moved to strike out the first, second and third sections, and insert the following:

Resolved, That the lessee of Tammany Hall be requested to see that he will allow the use of Tammany Hall on the evening of the 17th instant, for the mass meeting of the Democracy of this City and County, called to consider and respond to the policy of the National Administration as expressed in the first Message of President BUCHANAN.

This brought Sachem FOWLER to the floor, who combatted the arguments of the Secretary of State elect. In a speech of some length he undertook to expose the true objects of the self-elected gentlemen, who, he said, desired to monopolize the arrangement of Democratic meetings. He dwelt upon the danger of allowing the name and prestige of Tammany Hall to cover secret designs of ambitious would-be rulers, who, upon the pretence of probing the Presidential question to the bottom, would, in reality, be engaged in the dirty work of Disunionists.

Sachem HALSEY fully concurred with the views of Sachem FOWLER, and as one reason why Sachem FOWLER HALL could not grant the use of the Hall, he would state that it had been known to the advocates of Mr. BUCHANAN'S policy. In what character were those who had been known as

BUSINESS NOTICES.

KEEN'S OYSTER CREAM.
PEACH COATS,
BUSINESS COATS,
PANTS
and
VESTS.
At reduced prices.
To close the season.
ALFRED MUNROE & CO., No. 41 Broadway.

E. C. HERRING & CO.'S PATENT CHANTRON SAFES—The celebrated Chantron Safes, with all the late improvements, are offered for sale at No. 40 Wall-st., on Fifth-av., and at the factory, Jersey City. Descriptive circulars sent by mail.

DIED.

BRAZER—Monday, 23d inst., Mary Ann, wife of Samuel Brazer, in the 72d year of her age.
The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Wednesday morning, 25th inst., at 10 o'clock, from the residence of her son-in-law, Charles Hall, No. 18 Lexington-av. Interment at Greenwood.

MARRIED.

BRAZER—HOLT—In this City, on Wednesday, Dec. 18, by the Rev. Geo. W. Bethune, D.D., assisted by the Rev. Samuel Cooke, JAMES G. BRAZER, of Philadelphia, Pa., to CARRIE M., daughter of C. J. HOLT, of this City.
DOWNER—In Brooklyn, on Tuesday, Dec. 18, JOHN WESLEY DOWNER, in the 74th year of his age.
Funeral services at the residence of his son-in-law, Rev. Dr. Hall, No. 8 Montague-st., Brooklyn, on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Interment at Greenwood.
HOWE—In Williamsburg, on Tuesday, Dec. 18, ELIZABETH HOWE, wife of Dr. Thomas Howe, in the 74th year of her age.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 166 Adams-st., Brooklyn, on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Boston papers please copy.
LAWRENCE—In this City, on Wednesday, Dec. 18, ELIZA LAWRENCE, wife of the late William Lawrence, in the 74th year of her age.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 48 Fifth-av., on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Interment at Greenwood.
MOORE—In Williamsburg, on Tuesday, Dec. 18, ELIZA, wife of Dr. William Moore, in the 70th year of her age.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 48 Fifth-av., on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Interment at Greenwood.
PHILLIPS—On Tuesday, Dec. 18, ELIZA, wife of Dr. Wm. Phillips.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 48 Fifth-av., on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Interment at Greenwood.
SMITH—On Tuesday, Dec. 18, ELIZA, wife of Dr. Wm. Smith.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 48 Fifth-av., on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Interment at Greenwood.
WILLIAMS—On Tuesday, Dec. 18, ELIZA, wife of Dr. Wm. Williams.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 48 Fifth-av., on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Interment at Greenwood.
WOOD—On Tuesday, Dec. 18, ELIZA, wife of Dr. Wm. Wood.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 48 Fifth-av., on Friday, Dec. 21, at 2 o'clock P.M.
Interment at Greenwood.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Municipal Elections.

The municipal elections of Boston, Charlestown, Roxbury, and Salem took place yesterday. A direct vote for Mayor could not have been taken in Boston, and if gentlemen had chosen to go into it without party they would have done so without any danger from the workers. It was late for the vote to be taken, for the contest in each city was getting to be decidedly factitious; the special reason that has been assigned for the interest in Boston has been nothing of the kind, but a series of rival caucuses and conventions, the result of which was a choice of candidates by the Democratic party. Yesterday's vote was a vote on his mind. This was the first time that the people of Boston had been called upon to express their preference for Mayor, and the result was looked for with much interest. Mr. BAKER'S successor is the National Democratic candidate for Governor, and the battle would be fought there with more spirit, because it was an off year, and now the contest was to be decided by their friends. Mr. BAKER'S friends had been at work for the last month, and had been sanguine of success. The Democrats, however, had a large majority in the city, and the political *friends*, that is the office-seekers, were active at a time on his mind. This was the case in the election of Mayor, and the result was looked for with much interest. Mr. BAKER succeeded by a majority of 1,110 to 4,191, and the vote was very light. Mr. LINCOLN'S personal popularity was overwhelming, and the Democrats had to nominate somebody. Mr. LINCOLN was elected over Mr. BAKER by a vote of 3,110 to 4,191, and there was only 52 scattering

AUCTION SALES.

HENRY H. LAMB & CO., Auctioneers.

ELEGANT SALE OF PAINTINGS, DEC. 17.

CHENEY & LAMB & CO. will sell on THURSDAY, Dec. 14, at 11 o'clock, at their gallery, No. 23 Madison-av., a superb collection of choice oil pictures, pastels and water-color drawings, the property of W. Schaus, Esq., comprising examples of the following artists: Among them are specimens of Achenbach, Bouguereau, Bridgman, Bonnat, Boldini, Bellecour, Bellet, Bouvier, Bonvin, Bernier, Bernier, Bonheur

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